

# PARIS.

## Herald Special Report of the Situation in the Capital.

### Bismarck's Proposal of a Peace Plan.

### Bazaine's Successful Sortie on the Besieging Army.

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### THE SITUATION IN PARIS.

#### TELEGRAMS TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

**Bismarck's Plan of Peace—What the Premier Offered—Jules Favre's Reply—Life in the beleaguered City—Artillery Practice—Excellent Firing on Both Sides—Politics and Peace—The Death Rate—Provisions—Municipal Rule—Wishing for the End—Minister Washburne's Health.**

LONDON, Oct. 22.—P. M.

A special letter addressed to the *HERALD* from Paris, under date of the 14th inst., has just been received here. I hasten to transmit its contents by cable telegram report.

The *HERALD* writer says: The negotiations for the conclusion of a peace between France and Prussia continue. Premier Count Bismarck forwarded letters yesterday by Minister Washburne, of the United States, to M. Jules Favre. The despatches referred to the peace question. They were of a conciliatory character, particularly so as coming from Bismarck. The Prussian Premier proposes the arrangement and conclusion of an armistice between the contending forces, and that the armistice shall cover a time sufficiently lengthy to permit of the French elections being held, and the subsequent assembling and constitutional organization of the new Parliament of France. Next, that the French Parliament shall discuss the subject, and decide freely and definitely as to peace or a continuation of the war. This discussion to embrace all the principal points likely to be brought forward, particularly by France. One of these principal conditions to be that the military situation in the field shall remain in statu quo until the representative vote is taken and the result formally announced to the generals in command of the two armies. During the continuance of the French parliamentary debate members of the Legislature from the provinces will be allowed to enter Paris through the Prussian investing line; but no other persons natives of France. The population of Alsace and Lorraine not to vote or have any voice in the crisis.

To this latter proposition Minister Jules Favre objects, and it is thought, very absurdly indeed, as it remains a stern fact that Alsace and Lorraine cannot vote or accomplish any other citizen duty to France while the soil of the very territory is held and occupied by the Prussian armies.

As a solution of this point of difficulty, however, Count Bismarck himself is rather inclined towards a declaration of the neutrality of the territory of Alsace and Lorraine.

There is very little general news, at least of news of any very great importance.

The Prefect of Paris remains in very good spirits in view of the condition of public affairs, but he himself even will not until a late hour of the night tell how matters are going on outside or what decision is likely to be come to by the government on the peace question.

FROM THE PROVINCES.

There has been, disheartening news from the provinces to-night. This intelligence would have been published by the *Journal* here, but the government will not permit it, as the executive conceals the facts just in the same manner as did the cabinet of the empire under Napoleon.

A FIGHT OUTSIDE.

Yesterday there was a fight somewhere in the neighborhood of the city. The French behaved well, but it is acknowledged that they, as usual, fell back after some little time. They wished to capture a Prussian position, which is elevated for a very favorable range of gun fire, but found that it was too strongly and carefully guarded by the Germans.

ARTILLERY.

Artillery is being manufactured rapidly by the French and in abundance. At present the Prussians have seven cannons for every one thousand men in the army, but the French have only three. When this inequality in the weight of artillery is removed we shall have more fighting, with battles on a much larger and equally balanced scale.

POLITICS AND SOCIETY.

The Paris "reds" have been put down most effectually. Gustave Flourens remains under arrest, and will be tried by a court martial. Another radical "red" agitator, named Sappey, will be placed before the same tribunal for trial.

The "caution," or guarantee pledge money, which has been hitherto demanded of the newspapers, has been abolished. The newspapers are now perfectly free. The press writers and their journals remain patriotic and well affected towards the public cause, with the exception of two or three of the ultra "reds," who continue to growl, but cannot bite, for the reason that their teeth have been filed by law.

PROVISIONS.

Butcher meat is very scarce in the city, and no one person is permitted to purchase more than one-fourth of a pound of it per day.

PESTILENCE.

The health of the city remains good. Smallpox is prevalent, however. Of 10,485 deaths which occurred during the past week 212 were from smallpox, 50 from pneumonia, 54 from typhus fever, 30 from bronchitis, and 20 from diarrhoea.

OFFICIAL DECISIONS.

M. Krantz, Prefect of Police, has resigned his commission. He has taken this step to enable him to go round still more freely as a citizen, and exhort and "sit up" the people for the defence of their city and homes. Krantz is an man of very great energy. His first mission under the republican government will be to Spain.

THE "REDS."

M. Rochefort has become exceedingly conservative in his expression. He advises his friends the "reds" to behave themselves, to be patriotic, and above all things not to make Prussians of themselves. The most violent of the "reds" whisper to themselves that Rochefort has turned traitor to the cause, and they threaten even to "ship off his head" the very first chance which they can obtain; they do not say

whether they mean his head or his head political.

**POLICE.**

Forty-seven officers who served as commissaries of police and one hundred and fifty other persons, employees of different departments, have been invalided on account of age and turned adrift.

The leading city newspapers are published in pamphlet form every two days. Their contents are very piquant indeed.

The members of the different clubs meet every night all over the city, but since the "reds" were prohibited from assembling last Saturday the clubs' reunions have lost almost all their importance. The people don't fear the clubs as they did before the war.

**CANNOT BE TAKEN.**

Paris is fortified tremendously, with the greatest care and in vast strength. You may rest assured that the city cannot be taken by assault.

The firing from the city forts is admirable and is improving wonderfully every day. The sailors who have been taken from the war vessels aim with extraordinary accuracy.

Indeed, the firing is good on both sides. Yesterday the Prussians aimed directly at two of the French advanced batteries which were damaging them very considerably, and blew both of them to pieces in a very short time.

One of the French fortifications exactly the same service on two of the Prussian batteries, blowing the works high in air.

**COMING HOME.**

M. Juge and J. Basse have just written letters against the "reds." The only leader now left that party is Blanqui. Felix Pyat is only a second rate man.

**HOW THEY LIVE.**

The gates of Paris were opened each day at day-break and closed again at six o'clock P. M. Omnibuses are not permitted to run in the streets after half-past ten P. M.

**WORKS OF ART FROM ST. CLOUD.**

The paintings, statuary and tapestries of the palace of St. Cloud were removed to a place of safety before the hostile investment. They were not burned, as has been alleged, during the destruction of property which at first prevailed in every direction.

**NEWS UNDER DIFFICULTIES.**

Paris news is really scarcer than Paris meat. Many of the journals invent stories which they call news. When the intelligence comes that an English newspaper has arrived everybody is crazy either to see it or hear its contents read. The Paris newspaper men run after it every where.

**PRAYING FOR PEACE.**

Paris is praying, but in secret, for peace. She is afraid to say it aloud. There is really no want of "pluck," patience or endurance among the Parisians; but the situation has become terribly distressing. They have an enormous amount of poverty and suffering, but still great hope.

**THE ASSAULTS AGAINST THE CITY.**

The Americans who are in the city are very eager to get out. Some few will leave by special permission of the government during the next week. The novelty of the siege being now over the daily routine of life is very dull here and oppressive just now.

Minister Washburne was very ill yesterday, but is better in health to-day.

Soup kitchens have been organized in the city, and there are rationed are dealt out to every person who produces a certificate of poverty.

The weather remains changeable: it is rainy and again pleasant by turns, but not yet cold.

**Public Confidence—Sortie in Force—The Prussians Unable to Stand the Parisian Fire—New Instruments of Destruction—Americans Leaving Paris—Belike and Bismarck Disagree.**

A balloon letter to the *HERALD* received to-day in London, and dated at Paris, puts de la Medelline, the 18th, gives accounts of numerous public meetings which had just been held in favor of the government. The general health of the people is excellent, and public order remains undisturbed. There had been some fears of disturbance from the ultras at Belleville; but these had been dispelled by the exertions of Henri Rochefort and Emmanuel Arago. The *Journal des Debats* of the 11th says the second stage of the bombardment has been indefinitely postponed by the power of the French guns and the skill with which they have been served. It anticipates a speedy development of the third stage, the stage of sorties in force, and the raising of the investment already repelled. The news received by the government from the provinces continued to be excellent and most encouraging. At Nantes and Brittany a loan of half a million of francs having been called for by the municipality for a small local purpose connected with the defence of the department, a million and half of francs was subscribed in a single day. Bonds have been issued in Brittany also, and freely taken up, for arming a Vendean legion, to be commanded by a descendant and namesake of the great Catholic commander of the old revolutionary and Vendean war, Cathelineau. The extreme republicans have cordially given to their adherence to the project, saying that all questions of creed in politics or in religion must be forgotten in the presence of the nation's great necessity. The Vendean volunteers, as soon as organized, will be sent forward to act for the succor of Paris. Great ardor is shown in the national cause by the sailors of all the French ports. They are volunteering everywhere, and the naval artillerists are despatched as soon as they are organized in corps to the cities next likely to be attacked by the Prussians. Two new mitrailleurs have been invented and are manufacturing in Paris, one of them throwing no fewer than 481 balls a minute. The Marche de l'Entrepot or Halle and Vieux has been converted into a vast cartridge factory, where the work goes on day and night. On the 10th 20,000 French deserters, from the Pomeralian regiments in the Prussian service, escaped from the German lines in a body, capturing their officers, and came into the French lines near Metz. They reported the Fifth corps, to which they belonged (Von Kirchbald's), as greatly demoralized by the defeats which it suffered on the previous day at Bougrail and Baginex, and the general condition of the camps at Versailles as deplorable, the troops suffering greatly from sickness and want of wood. They were put into safe quarters, and will be carefully looked to. The diplomatic expeditions of General Bismarck were generally ridiculed by the Parisian press, which thinks them kept up by the Germans as a means of deluding the world in regard to their actual weakness and their impending perils in the siege of Paris. At a solemn meeting of the Grand Lodge of Free Masons in Paris King William and the Crown Prince of Prussia, Frederick William, were expelled from the Grand Lodge.

Major Macdonald, who has returned to Versailles, and having been able to reach the front, to which he had intended to transfer himself, sends word by a courier of the Fifteenth that the French batteries lodged the Germans from St. Cloud and destroyed the palace there, probably because it was used by the Germans as an observatory. Its hull concealed their operations. The fire of the French made it impossible to keep any siege guns mounted. The platforms had been constructed at a fearful cost of life and limb, but the terrible accuracy and long range of the artillery in the forts made them useless.

Since the Germans began to withdraw from the immediate vicinity of Paris persons have been allowed to go in and come out of the city much more freely. Permission has been obtained by Mr. Washburne for one hundred and fifty Americans to leave the city. More than three hundred would still remain, among them Colonel Hoffman, the Secretary of the American Legation. Persons go into Paris and come out of it almost daily, accompanied by a number of women, for the purpose of offering their services to the Germans wounded and scattered through the woods in the successive defeats of the besieging forces. They were very cordially welcomed. When General Napoleon Boyer rode through the streets of Versailles, on his arrival to confer with the King and Count Bismarck, he was hailed as he rode along by the townspeople, who heartily took off their hats to him in the case of the Prussians, crying out, "Vive la France!"

There is much sensation in the German headquarters over something very like a ratline between General von Moltke and Count von Bismarck. Count

von Bismarck accuses General von Moltke of over-estimating the capacity of the army for reducing Paris, and of interposing purely military objections in the way of the political necessity of peace. Count von Bismarck triumphed with the King. He persuaded the King that it would not be safe to press the war merely as a war, and brought him to agree that Marshal Bazaine should be instructed to the effect that if he would undertake the restoration of Napoleon he should be allowed entire freedom of action, and assisted, should he desire it, to move upon Paris, from which the German armies would withdraw. General von Moltke was bitterly opposed to these propositions.

Operations are still reported in the hands at Metz. On the 13th routes were quoted at the bourse at 53 francs 20 centimes, being an advance of 25 centimes on the preceding day.

### BAZAINE'S ARMY AT METZ.

TELEGRAMS TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

**Rumor of a General and Successful Sortie from Metz—Prussian Lines Said to Have Been Forced.**

LONDON, Oct. 22.—P. M.

Telegrams addressed to the *NEW YORK HERALD* from Tours, under date of the 21st inst., at eleven o'clock a. m., state that it was rumored there, the seat of the government of France, that Marshal Bazaine had made a successful sortie from Metz, and cut his way through the Prussian investing lines with his whole army, numbering 60,000 men.

Very intense excitement prevailed in Tours in consequence of the circulation of the report.

**Bazaine's Sortie—The Marshal's Force—The German Opposition—Captures—Sickness Among the Besiegers—The Siege of Verdun Interrupted.**

TOURS, Oct. 22, 1870.

The following official despatch has just been received here from Neuchateau:

On Friday, the 14th inst., Marshal Bazaine made a sortie with 80,000 men, crushing the enemy, which consisted of twenty-six battalions of infantry and two regiments of cavalry. He also captured 120 wagons, laden with stores and provisions of war.

Sickness among the besiegers is constantly increasing. The Prussians have been forced twice to renew their army around Metz.

Another despatch from Neuchateau says the siege of Verdun has been interrupted lately by the vigorous defence of the French. The latter have made several sorties and inundated the environs of the town.

**Another View of the Situation in Metz—Conflicting in the Garrison—Deserters Numerous.**

LONDON, Oct. 22, 1870.

The London papers to-day publish the reports made by deserters from Metz, to the effect that Marshal Bazaine was dead; that Canrobert was in command, and that hunger and pestilence prevailed in the city. The stories are generally discredited. At Berlin, however, the capitulation of Bazaine is hourly expected. It now seems the overture he recently made looking to a surrender, referred only to the troops which had retired at Metz, and not to the garrison of the city.

A despatch from Berlin to-day says that the *Staats Anzeiger* of yesterday, in its account of affairs before Metz, says the sickness in the armies is due to the unwholesomeness of the food. The weather is becoming wet and typhus will, doubtless, go with the present cool weather. Desertions from the garrison are increasing, the fugitives all giving the same reason—hunger. The investing force, and the German armies generally, receive abundant supplies of all sorts of cattle on foot. Thousands of sheep have been sent to France for the Germans.

**Bazaine to Fight It Out—Bourbaki Expected—operating with Him—Great Results Expected.**

LONDON, Oct. 22, 1870.

A special at Ostend sends word that there is no truth in the peace negotiations reported at London to be going on between Marshal Bazaine, the Emperor and the Prussian government. Since he crippled the Germans and drove them back upon Pont-a-Maisson, on the 15th, Marshal Bazaine has been forming combinations in Northeastern France, as all the stories from the Belgian frontier concur in representing, which are already developing themselves on the flank and rear of the German lines of operation. General Bourbaki is understood to be co-operating with him at Lille, and there is great anxiety felt in Brussels about the issue of the movements now on foot. It is exciting much comment in Belgium that for now a long time no official bulletin of advantages were won by the Germans has appeared.

The diplomatic activity so noticeable here a short time ago has given place to a kind of apathy, as the conviction gains ground that the French republican government is really strong enough to hold its own and will accept no dictation from abroad.

### THE MILITARY OPERATIONS.

TELEGRAMS TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

**The Parisians Make Another Dash—Response to Trochu's Call—On to Amiens—The Metziers—Armistice Concluded—The Prussians in St. Quentin—Keraty's Failure in Spain—Captures at Solisano—No Americans Need Apply.**

LONDON, Oct. 22, 1870.

The town of Mantes is threatened by the Prussians.

**ANOTHER FRENCH SORTIE FROM PARIS.**

The following despatch was received here to-day from Versailles, October 21, by way of Berlin:—

At noon to-day a sortie was made by the French from Fort du Mont Valerien, supported by forty field guns. They were victoriously repulsed by detachments of the Ninth and Tenth divisions of infantry and a regiment of the landwehr, supported, toward the close of the engagement, by the Fourth corps. The Prussians captured about a hundred prisoners and two of the guns. The German loss was small. The King witnessed the battle from the Marly viaduct. The people of Versailles were greatly alarmed.

**MORE THAN HE ASKED FOR.**

From Lille a report has been received that the number of volunteers asked for by General Trochu (100,000) has been greatly exceeded.

**THE PRUSSIAN APPROACHING AMIENS.**

A despatch from Amiens, dated to-day, announces that the Prussians are only three kilometers distant. Every preparation has been made to defend the town. A special train laden with munitions of war passed through Amiens to-day from Lille, going to Rouen. General Bourbaki is expected to leave Lille to-day for the same destination. He has 60,000 men under his command.

A despatch from Lille says that communication with Amiens by railroad has been interrupted.

**CONCLUSION OF THE METZIER ARMISTICE.**

The armistice at Metz ended yesterday (Friday) afternoon at three o'clock. The bridge over the Meuse near that place will be blown up by the Prussians to-day, but the bombardment will not be commenced until more troops and munitions of war can be brought up. The French force within the walls of Metz is computed at about five thousand men, and are fragments of various French regiments.

**ST. QUENTIN OCCUPIED.**

A despatch from Lille to-day confirms the occupation of St. Quentin by the Prussians, after a short cannonade.

A despatch from Lille to-day says that the Germans entered St. Quentin yesterday morning. They made requisitions for two millions of francs, to which the leading citizens came to Lille and borrowed from the bank.

**KERATY'S MISSION.**

A despatch from Tours says that M. Keraty has arrived there from Madrid. His mission there was to act as mediator, but on the advice of friends he remained, and only asked leave to import arms from Spain and the Spanish colonies. This was, however, refused.

**WHAT WAS TAKEN AT SOLISANO.**

The official report of the captures made at Solisano has just been made public. Ninety-nine officers and 4,628 men and 600 horses, 100 guns, 125 guns or 60 guns, 70,000 rounds, 150 tons of gun-

powder, and a military chest containing 92,000 francs fell into the hands of the Germans.

**NOT WANTED.**

The correspondent of the *London Morning Standard* says the American Ambulance Corps has been given to understand by the Prussians that its aid is not wanted.

**BISMARCK REBUKES BULL RUSSELL.**

Count Bismarck has repudiated all the share ascribed to him in the sorrows of Mr. W. H. Russell, the newspaper correspondent, whom he asserts he had only corrected in a material point.

**SEVERAL NOTES.**

The *Belgian Monitor* of Brussels officially denies that the government has received any note from Prussia complaining of the tone of the Belgian press or that there is any lack of cordiality in the relations between the two countries.

The troops in camp at Tours are to be reviewed once a week. Reinforcements are constantly arriving.

The Prussians now occupy Gargean, near Orleans.

Nearly the whole of the Department of Haut Loane is under the control of the Prussians.

The people of Chateaufort have refused to answer the repeated requisitions of detachments of Prussians. It is understood the Prussian commander sustains the action of the people.

The Arc de Triomphe at Paris is now to all intents and purposes an iron clad fort, the work on the structure being completed a day or two ago.

Deserters from Metz were constantly arriving at Berlin.

King Leopold has given 50,000 francs in aid of the German wounded.

The art treasures at St. Cloud were removed by the French before the fire was opened.

There is a force of about one thousand Germans at Bougenay.

**Bourbaki Moving—None but Honorable Terms to be Accepted—Preparations in Lyons—Vernon Attacked—Charters Surrounded—Brilliant—American Volunteers—More Excesses by the Prussians.**

TOURS, Oct. 22, 1870.

The Prussians are marching on Amiens, in two columns; one by Breteuil and the other by Montdidier.

**TAKEN THE FIELD.**

General Bourbaki has commenced operations in the North.

**STRENGTHENING POSITIONS.**

Correspondence received from Paris, dated the 18th inst., announces that the French have strongly fortified the gap between Mont Valerien and St. Denis by earthworks, and expect soon to make a serious offensive movement.

**"SHOCKY."**

It is understood here that the preparations for the national defense are now so great that the government will not accept peace save upon a liberal basis. At Paris the determination is also evident to make a defense to the last, unless honorable terms of peace can be obtained.

**PREPARING FOR THEM.**

The journals of Lyons demand the immediate adoption of vigorous defensive measures. They say that the Prussians seem to be turning Besancon and other strong places, and may march direct upon Lyons. The forts and detachments at the latter city are ready, but there is a lack of experienced gunners. A large number of these have been sent forward from Tours for Lyons.

**THE ATTACK ON VERNON.**

The Prussians attacked the town of Vernon, near Rouen, commencing it from the opposite side of the river.

**CHARTERS SURROUNDED.**

Charters has been surrounded by the Prussians, 20,000 strong. They have also forty cannon. The Prefect of the Department and the Mayor of the city have arranged with the Prussian commander that the rights of the citizens shall be respected.

**REVIEWS AND REGULATIONS.**

M. Gambetta, the Secretary of the Interior, has issued a decree that the new troops, either at the camps or in towns, are to be reviewed twice a week. Other regulations touching the discipline of the armies in camps are also prescribed. Officers will not be permitted during the continuance of the war to wear civilian's dress. Not more than two thousand troops will be allowed to occupy any town. Where the French force consists of a greater number of men, the remainder must encamp at some distance, and such soldiers will not be permitted to go into the town unless by the order of the commander. All officers must remain in their camps, except when their duty calls them elsewhere. Every day the troops must be exercised and drilled, sent out on marches of from twenty to thirty kilometers, and in all respects the camps are to be organized precisely as though in the presence of the enemy.

**RESIGNATION OF THE SUB-PREFECT OF ST. QUENTIN.**

The Sub-Prefect of St. Quentin has arrived here, having resigned his office, because the municipal authorities refused to defend the town a second time in case of an attack. The consequence of this refusal by the authorities was the occupation of the town by the Prussians, who hold it now.

**TREATMENT OF AMERICAN VOLUNTEERS.**

The *Journal du Peuple* de la Loire, of Nantes, publishes a letter from Brest stating that the American volunteers were treated negligently by the authorities upon their arrival at that city. It is understood that strict orders have been forwarded by the government that all other volunteers on their arrival shall be treated with the utmost care.

**PRUSSIAN CECILITY.**

Instances of extreme cecility practiced by the Prussians towards the French-freemen are related from all parts of the country.

**ANOTHER CALAMITY IN FRANCE.**

George Francis Train arrived at Marseilles yesterday and created great excitement by making a speech, in which he denounced the Prussians in the most bitter terms.

**MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.**

Nothing official has been received from the armies at Orleans.

The returned to camp at Beaugency.

The Papal Nuncio has arrived in this city.

It is reported that the Prussian forces now occupying Orleans are committing such excesses that it is believed they are on the point of leaving that place, and are determined to leave nothing to the inhabitants.

The Prussians have been hastily sending towards Paris enormous quantities of cattle and sheep and large supplies of forage.

Over thirty Prussian spies who were arrested in different parts of France were brought here to-day.

### THE POLITICAL QUESTION.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

**The Efforts at Mediation—Thiers in Paris—An Armistice for the Elections—King William to be Emperor of Germany—Prussia Determined on Territory.**

LONDON, Oct. 22, 1870.

It is reported that the North German sovereigns have been convoked at Versailles to declare King William Emperor of Germany.

**LOD LYONS AND MEDICATION.**

A despatch from Tours, dated to-day, says that at a meeting of the Council to-day it is reported that the subject of the election of members to the Assembly Constituent was discussed. It is also reported that the Council was informed by Lord Lyons that he had received orders from his government to announce its desire to mediate in conjunction with Austria and Italy. The answer of M. Gambetta was that the Council could do nothing without the concurrence of the government at Paris.

**THIERS GOES TO PARIS—HOW?**

From Tours we learn that it is rumored that M. Thiers has gone to Paris to consult with the government. It is thought, relative to an armistice and the peace question.

**WHAT THERE IS AN ARMISTICE?**

The *Constitutionnel*, of Tours, to-day announces that Lord Lyons, the British Minister, has made an important communication to the government here. He wishes, aided by Austria and Italy, to offer an armistice in order that the elections for members of the Constituent Assembly may proceed. He stated that Russia would act in the same direction. The government has not yet returned any formal reply.

**A FREE ELECTION.**

A telegram to the *Moniteur* *Gazette*, dated at Tours to-day, says an armistice for a month has

been agreed upon in order that the elections may proceed.

**PRUSSIA DETERMINED ON TERRITORY.**

The evening edition of the *London Times* contains a special telegram from Berlin stating that Prussia has repeated her willingness to grant an armistice if the principle of the cession of territory be conceded. The mere dismantling of the fortresses in Alsace and Lorraine, under a European guarantee, is insufficient.

### THE OCEAN DISASTERS.

#### Harrowing Details of the Loss of the Steamship Cambria.

#### The Narrative of Shipwreck as Told by the Surviving Passenger.

#### No Hope for the Safety of the Missing Boats.

#### The Iron Ship Hecla Foundered at Sea.